

TRIBUTE TO MARY GILLEY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Mary Gilley, the long-time clerk of the Greene County district court, and to express my appreciation for her dedication and commitment to her community in Iowa.

For the past 26 years, Mary has worked with the clerk of court's office, providing dependable service to the community. Since 1985 she has been the clerk of the district court. Before her time with Greene County, Mary worked at a law firm in Fort Dodge, Iowa and was employed as a legal secretary in a private practice.

Mary Gilley has left a permanent mark on Greene County and will be truly missed at the district court, although she plans to continue serving the community through volunteer work. I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in commending Mary for her outstanding service to her community and congratulating her on her retirement. I consider it an honor to represent Mary in Congress, and I wish her a long, happy and healthy future.

HONORING THE INAUGURATION OF THE IKARIA® DISTINGUISHED PROFESSORSHIP OF CRITICAL CARE

HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Ms. BALDWIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today concerning a matter of great interest to me, which is the need for greater progress and support for children and infants who require critical care.

Each year, five million Americans are admitted to Intensive Care Units (ICUs), and it is estimated that as many as half a million of these are infants and children. Indeed, estimates show that nearly one-half of infants and one-third of older children who die each year received ICU care.

While medical technologies advance across the world, there unfortunately have been fewer true breakthroughs in critical care therapies in recent years, including those designed for children and infants. Babies and children are the most fragile of critically ill patients; their ability to thrive and survive should be among our highest priorities.

It is for these reasons that I am pleased to observe that today, the Children's National Medical Center (CNMC) in Washington, D.C. will hold an inauguration ceremony naming The Ikaria® Distinguished Professorship of Critical Care. This chair will be sustained by a donation of \$2.5 million by Ikaria, a bio-therapeutics company which provides acute care products that address significant unmet needs of ICU and neonatal ICU patients. Ikaria, which has manufacturing facilities in my hometown of Madison, Wisconsin, is providing an unconditional gift to endow and establish a distinguished professorship for an outstanding

physician-scientist who will provide leadership to advance the science of critical care medicine.

Madam Speaker, I hope you will join me in recognizing the tremendous potential value of this vital research professorship, and to applaud Ikaria and Children's National Medical Center for their vision and commitment to the health of our Nation's children.

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL JAMES L. MELIN

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual from my Congressional District who has dedicated his life to defending the people of this country and preserving the basic freedoms and liberties that we hold dear. Brigadier General James L. Melin, of the United States Air Force Reserve, is a true American hero and today I thank him for his 39 years of service. On Saturday, March 27, 2010, General Melin will be honored at his retirement and Change of Command Ceremony at March Air Force Base in California.

General Melin was commissioned through the ROTC program at St. Louis University, Missouri, and graduated in 1971. After graduation, he began active duty and completed his flight training at Reese Air Force Base, Texas, in 1974.

During his career, General Melin's assignments included Administrative Officer, 1550th Aircrew Training Test Wing at Hill Air Force Base; KC-135 Pilot, 28th Bombardment Wing, Ellsworth Air Force Base; KC-135 Pilot and Mission Development Officer, 93rd Bombardment Wing, Castle Air Force Base; Instructor Pilot, 931st Air Refueling Group, Grissom Air Force Base; and Evaluator Pilot, Chief of Plans, Chief of Standardization and Evaluation, Director of Training, Operations Officer, and Operations Group Commander, 940th Air Refueling Wing, McClellan Air Force Base.

In 1997, General Melin commanded the 434th Operations Group, Grissom ARB, Indiana and later assumed command of the 434th Air Refueling Wing. Starting in 2006, General Melin took command of the 452nd Air Mobility Wing at March Air Force Base in California.

Throughout his exemplary career, General Melin has flown over 5,500 hours and participated in tanker operations in Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Joint Forge, Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom.

General Melin's awards include the Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Aerial Achievement Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with "V" device and four oak leaf clusters, Southwest Asia Service Medal with two bronze stars, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia), and Kuwait Liberation Medal (Government of Kuwait).

General Melin will retire from the United States Air Force service with more than just his experience, decorated career and remarkable accomplishments; his enduring legacy will

serve as a shining example and constant reminder of what it means to be an American patriot and leader. I am grateful for his service and salute him as he retires from the Air Force.

TRIBUTE TO DALI AND FELIX GONZALEZ

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Dali and Felix Gonzalez, students at Perry High School in Perry, Iowa, for their efforts in raising money to help those devastated by the recent earthquake in Haiti.

Dali and Felix are siblings who are originally from the Dominican Republic. Growing up in such close proximity to Haiti and having friends and acquaintances still living in Haiti, they felt a calling to help those in need. Felix, who is an avid artist, designed posters to demonstrate how close he used to live to the devastated region, and Dali made English and Spanish announcements about the fundraising effort over the school's PA system. Over several days they collected over \$150.00 at their donation setup in the lunch room. It is estimated that Dali and Felix's efforts will feed more than 750 people.

This collective effort at Perry High School is an example of what Iowa is all about—Iowans motivated and dedicated to personally helping people in need, and in this case those who have lost everything. I consider it an honor to represent Dali and Felix Gonzalez, all of those who donated money to Haiti, and ESL Instructor Julie Walstrom in the United States Congress. Again, I congratulate Dali and Felix for their great act of compassion and charity.

NATIONAL GUARD EMPLOYMENT PROTECTION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 22, 2010

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1879, "National Guard Employment Protection Act," a bill that amends title 38, United States Code, to provide for employment and reemployment rights for certain individuals ordered to full-time National Guard duty.

In these challenging economic times, with returning veterans experiencing unemployment rates in the double digits, we must do more to provide for our veterans' basic needs. This legislation shows that the U.S. is grateful for our veterans' service. Just as the military pledges to leave no soldier behind on the battlefield, this nation will leave no veteran behind when they come home.

National Guard is America's oldest armed force—dating back to 1636—and the only branch that serves both the Federal and State governments. The Guard answers to both the president of the United States and the governors of their respective states and territories.